

POOL, SPA, & HOT TUB BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

BUILDING DIVISION

Effective: January 1, 2014
Revised: Oct 13, 2015

❖ **An outdoor swimming pool, including an in-ground, above-ground or on-ground pool, hot tub or spa, shall be surrounded by a barrier which shall comply with the following:**

1. The top of the barrier shall be at least *60 inches above grade measuring on the outside of the barrier. Maximum vertical clearance of 2 inches from the grade to the bottom of the barrier.
2. Opening in the barrier shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere.
3. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members, and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches in width.
4. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members, and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches in width.
5. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 2 ¼ inch square, unless the fence has slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce openings to not more than 1 ¾ inches.
6. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1 ¾ inches.
7. Access gates shall comply with the same requirements as the barrier and equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian gates shall swing outward from the pool and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device.
8. Where the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism and openings shall comply with the following:
 - The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate; and
 - The gate and barrier shall have no opening larger than ½ inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.

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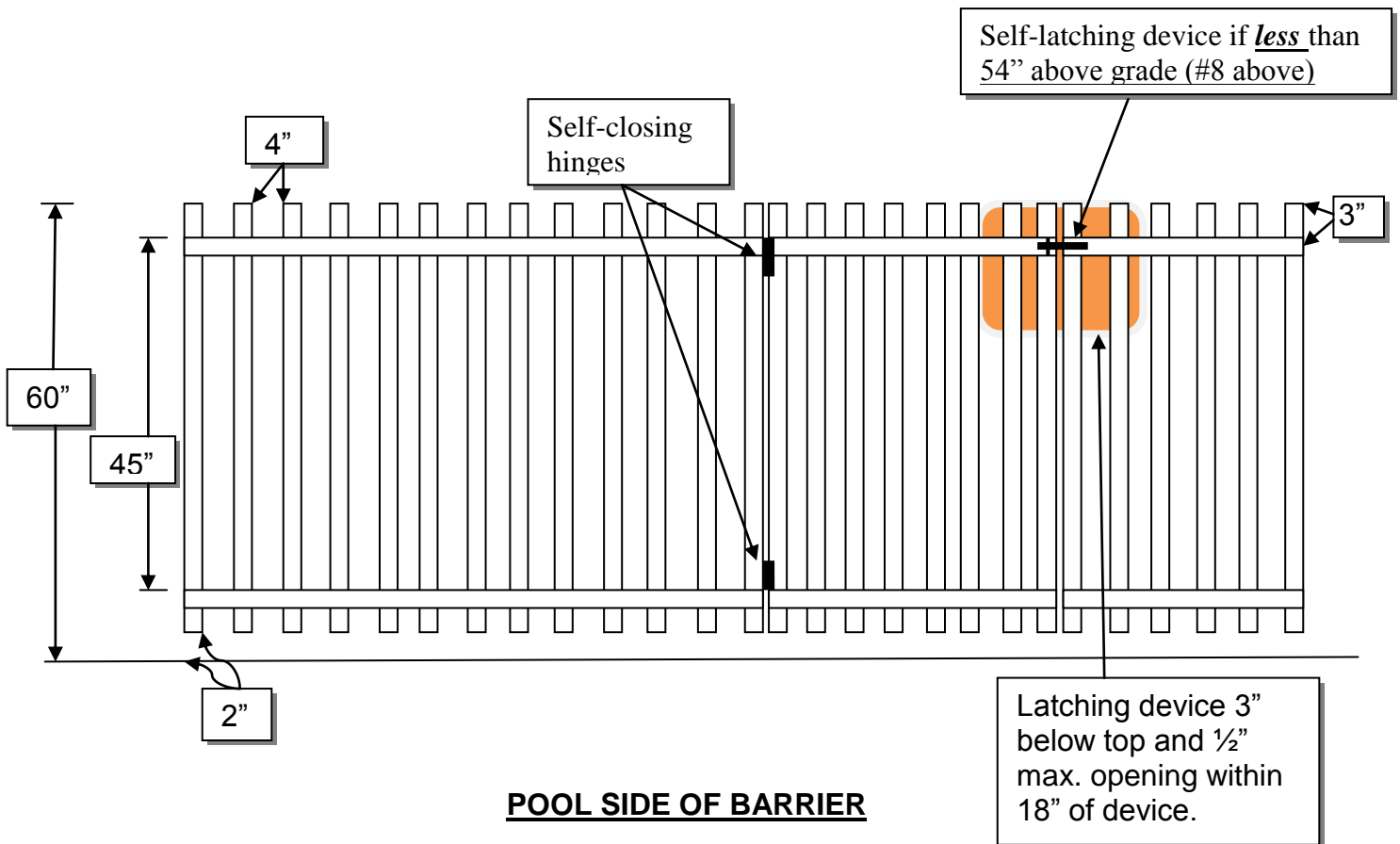
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9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following conditions shall be met:
- The pool shall be equipped with a powered safety cover in compliance with ASTM F 1346;
 - Doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and/or its screen, if present, are opened. The alarm shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2017. The deactivation switch shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door; or
 - Swimming pool alarms that, when placed in pools, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. These pool alarms shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM Standard F 2208 "Standards Specification for Pool Alarms" which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared type alarms. For purposes of this article, "swimming pool alarms" shall not include swimming protection alarm devices designed for individual use, such as an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water; or
 - Other means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, which are approved by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be acceptable as long as the degree of protection afforded is not less than the protection afforded by items described above.

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